UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/751,078	12/29/2000	Ravindra R. Mantena	YOR920000551US1	2055

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EXAMINER
WORJLOH, JALATEE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3621	

DATE MAILED: 09/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/751,078	MANTENA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Jalatee Worjloh	3621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _23 June 2004_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1-45_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1-45_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1.   This Office Action is responsive to the amendment filed on June 23, 2004, in which

claims 1, 2, 16, 31 and 32 were amended.

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments with respect to all claims have been considered but are moot in

view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

3.   Claims 1-45 have been examined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5.   Claims 1,2, 8, 14-17, 23, 29-32, 44 and 45 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over "Vetcentric.com Web-Enables Veterinary Supply Chain Using Neon

Technology", Dialog file 613, accession no. 00373116, to PR Newswire in view of US Patent

No. 6415156 to Stadelmann.

Referring to claims 1 and 31, PR Newswire discloses electronically receiving a sales

order in a private electronic environment from a purchaser in a public electronic environment,

and automatically returning an electronic order confirmation from the private electronic

environment to the public electronic environment for providing to the purchaser (see entire

document). PR Newswire does not expressly disclose obtaining an entitled price and an

estimated date of delivery or the electronic order confirmation comprises the entitled price and

the estimated date of delivery. Stadelmann discloses obtaining an entitled price and an estimated

date of delivery or the electronic order confirmation comprises the entitled price and the

estimated date of delivery (see col. 3, lines 3-29). At the time the invention was made, it would

have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by PR

Newswire to include the step obtaining an entitled price and an estimated date of delivery and the

electronic order confirmation comprises the entitled price and the estimated date of delivery.

One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it ensures that the

entities involve in the transaction agrees with the transaction details; thereby, reducing disputes.

Referring to claims 2, 8, 32 and 38, PR Newswire discloses the public electronic

environment comprises a front end application, wherein the private electronic environment

comprises a back end Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) application, wherein the

electronically receiving comprises electronically receiving by the back end ERP application the

sales order from the front end application, and the automatically returning comprises

automatically returning the electronic order confirmation from the back end ERP application to

the front end application; wherein the ERP comprises SAP (see entire document). PR Newswire

does not expressly disclose obtaining entitled price and the estimated date of delivery from the

backend ERP application. However, this difference is only found in the nonfunctional

descriptive material and is not functionally involved in the steps recited. The obtaining an

electronic order confirmation from the private electronic environment would be formed the same

regardless of the data. Thus, this descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention

from the prior art in terms of patentability, see In re Gulack, 703 F.3d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ

401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); In re Lowry, 32F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to obtain any type of ordering data, and return an electronic order

confirmation comprising the data because such data does not functionally relate to the steps in

the method claimed and the subjective interpretation of the data does not patentably distinguish

the claimed invention.

Referring to claims 14, 15, 44 and 45, PR Newswire disclosing the electronically

receiving a sales order in a private electronic environment form a purchaser in a public electronic

environment (see claim 1 above). PR Newswire does not expressly disclose the sales order is a

made-to-order item or an out-of-stock item. However these differences are only found in the

nonfunctional descriptive material and are not functionally involved in the step recited.

Receiving a sales order step will be performed the same regardless of the order item. Thus, this

descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of

patentability, see In re Gulack, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); In re

Lowry, 32 F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994). Therefore, it would have been obvious

to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the invention was made to receive orders of any type,

because such item does not functionally relate to the steps in the method claimed and because the

subjective interpretation of the item does not patentably distinguish the claim invention.

Referring to claims 16, 17 and 23, PR Newswire discloses means for electronically

receiving a sales order in a private electronic environment from a purchaser in a public electronic

environment, and means for automatically returning an electronic order confirmation from the

private electronic environment to the public electronic environment for providing to the

purchaser wherein the public electronic environment comprises a front end application, wherein

the private electronic environment comprises a back end Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)

application, wherein the means for electronically receiving comprises electronically receiving by

the back end ERP application the sales order from the front end application, wherein the means

for obtaining comprises obtaining the electronic order confirmation from the back end ERP

application, and wherein the means for automatically returning comprises automatically

returning the electronic order confirmation from the back end ERP application to the front end

application; wherein the ERP comprises SAP (see entire document). PR Newswire does not

expressly disclose means for obtaining an entitled price and an estimated date of delivery or the

electronic order confirmation comprises the entitled price and the estimated date of delivery.

Stadelmann discloses means obtaining an entitled price and an estimated date of delivery or the

electronic order confirmation comprises the entitled price and the estimated date of delivery (see

col. 3, lines 3-29). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person

of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by PR Newswire to include means for

obtaining an entitled price and an estimated date of delivery and the electronic order

confirmation comprises the entitled price and the estimated date of delivery. One of ordinary

skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it ensures that the entities involve in

the transaction agrees with the transaction details; thereby, reducing disputes.

Referring to claims 29 and 30, PR Newswire disclosing the electronically receiving a

sales order in a private electronic environment from a purchaser in a public electronic

environment (see claim 1 above). PR Newswire does not expressly disclose the sales order is a

made-to-order item or an out-of-stock item. However these differences are only found in the

nonfunctional descriptive material and are not functionally involved in the step recited.

Receiving a sales order step will be performed the same regardless of the order item. Thus, this

descriptive material will not distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art in terms of

patentability, see In re Gulack, 703 F.2d 1381, 1385, 217 USPQ 401, 404 (Fed. Cir. 1983); In re

Lowry, 32 F.3d 1579, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994). Therefore, it would have been obvious

to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the invention was made to receive orders of any type,

because such item does not functionally relate to the steps in the method claimed and because the

subjective interpretation of the item does not patentably distinguish the claim invention.

6.   Claims 3-7, 10, 11, 33-37, 40 and 41 and are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable Dialog file 613, accession no. 00373116 and Stadelmann as applied to claims 2 and

32 above, and further in view of "Candle and AT&T Team up at SAPPHIRE Conference to

Demonstrate Any-To-any Application Integration for SAP R/3 Application via the Web or Lotus

Notes", Dialog file 20, accession no. 02821200, to PR Newswire.

Referring to claims 3-7, 10, 11, 33-37, 40 and 41, PR Newswire (dialog file 613,

accession no. 00373116) discloses electronically receiving comprises electronically receiving the

sales order by the ERP application. PR Newswire (dialog file 613, accession no. 00373116) does

not expressly disclose receiving from messaging middleware. PR Newswire (dialog file 20,

accession no. 02821200) discloses receiving the sales order by the ERP application from

messaging middleware; the method further comprising electronically sending a command to the

ERP application from the messaging middleware; wherein the messaging middleware comprises

MQSERIES or MSMQ and the ERP application comprises SAP; wherein the front end

application comprises a browser, and wherein the public electronic environment comprises a

global computer network (see paragraphs 5 and 6). Note. PR Newswire (dialog file 20,

accession no. 02821200) discloses an ERP system called ERPNet that "easily allow distributors

to order merchandise through the web"; the ERPNet consists of a web-browser front-end

application, "communicating to an SAP R/3 system over IBM's MQSeries or Microsoft's

MSMQ, back-end application", which infers receiving the sales order by the ERP application

from messaging middleware and sending a command to the ERP. At the time the invention was

made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method

disclose by PR Newswire (dialog file 613, accession no. 00373116) to include the step of

receiving the sales order by the ERP application form messaging middleware. One of ordinary

skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides means for software

integration for data exchange, improving e-commerce transactions.

7.   Claims 9 and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over PR

Newswire (dialog file 613, accession no. 00373116) and Stadelmann as applied to claims 2 and

32 respectively above, and further in view of "Boeing takes off with Baan", dialog file 245,

accession no. 00109318, to InfoWorld.

PR Newswire (dialog file 613, accession no. 00373116) discloses ERP application (see claim 2 above). PR Newswire (dialog file 613, accession no. 00373116) does not expressly disclose the ERP application comprises BAAN. InfoWorld discloses the ERP application comprises BAAN (see entire document). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by PR Newswire to include the step wherein the ERP application comprises BAAN. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it effectively "links 18,000 users in four geographical regions, 19 manufacturing sites, and six database servers to handle as many as 6,000 concurrent users"; thus, providing sufficient integration.

8.   Claims 12, 13, 42 and 43 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dialog file 613, accession no. 00373116, Stadelmann, and Dialog file 20, accession no. 02821200, to PR Newswire as applied to claim 10 above, and further in view of US Patent No. 6418448 to Sarkar.

PR Newswire (Dialog file 20, accession no. 02821200) discloses electronically receiving by the ERP application the sales order form messaging middleware, and wherein the automatically (see paragraphs 5 and 6). Note. PR Newswire (dialog file 20, accession no. 02821200) discloses an ERP system called ERPNet that "easily allow distributors to order merchandise through the web"; the ERPNet consists of a web-browser front-end application, "communicating to an SAP R/3 system over IBM's MQSeries or Microsoft's MSMQ, back-end application", which infers receiving the sales order by the ERP application from messaging middleware. PR Newswire (Dialog file 20, accession no. 02821200) does not expressly disclose sending the electronic order confirmation from the ERP application to the messaging

middleware, forwarding the electronic order confirmation from the messaging middleware to a

global computer network site server on the global computer network, and returning the electronic

order confirmation from the global computer network site server to the browser. Sarkar

discloses sending the electronic order confirmation from the ERP application to the messaging

middleware, forwarding the electronic order confirmation from the messaging middleware to a

global computer network site server on the global computer network, returning the electronic

order confirmation from the global computer network site server to the browser, and encrypting

and decrypting the electronic order confirmation between the browser and the global computer

network site server (see col. 9, lines 32-67; col. 10, lines 1-9). At the time the invention was

made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method

disclose by PR Newswire (Dialog file 20, accession no. 02821200) to include the steps of

sending the electronic order confirmation from the ERP application to the messaging

middleware, forwarding the electronic order confirmation from the messaging middleware to a

global computer network site server on the global computer network, and returning the electronic

order confirmation from the global computer network site server to the browser. One of ordinary

skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides means for software

integration for data exchange, thus, improving e-commerce transactions.

9.   Claims 18-22, 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

Dialog file 613, accession no. 00373116 and Stadelmann as applied to claim 17 above, and

further in view of "Candle and AT&T Team up at SAPPHIRE Conference to Demonstrate Any-

To-any Application Integration for SAP R/3 Application via the Web or Lotus Notes", Dialog

file 20, accession no. 02821200, to PR Newswire.

PR Newswire (dialog file 613, accession no. 00373116) discloses electronically receiving

comprises electronically receiving the sales order by the ERP application. PR Newswire (dialog

file 613, accession no. 00373116) does not expressly disclose means for receiving from

messaging middleware. PR Newswire (dialog file 20, accession no. 02821200) discloses means

for receiving the sales order by the ERP application from messaging middleware; the method

further comprising means for electronically sending a command to the ERP application from the

messaging middleware; wherein the messaging middleware comprises MQSERIES or MSMQ

and the ERP application comprises SAP; wherein the front end application comprises a browser,

and wherein the public electronic environment comprises a global computer network (see

paragraphs 5 and 6). Note. PR Newswire (dialog file 20, accession no. 02821200) discloses an

ERP system called ERPNet that "easily allow distributors to order merchandise through the

web"; the ERPNet consists of a web-browser front-end application, "communicating to an SAP

R/3 system over IBM's MQSeries or Microsoft's MSMQ, back-end application", which infers

receiving the sales order by the ERP application from messaging middleware and sending a

command to the ERP. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a

person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by PR Newswire (dialog file

613, accession no. 00373116) to include the step of receiving the sales order by the ERP

application form messaging middleware. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been

motivated to do this because it provides means for software integration for data exchange,

improving e-commerce transactions.

10.   Claim 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over PR Newswire

(dialog file 613, accession no. 00373116) and Stadelmann as applied to claim 16 above, and

further in view of "Boeing takes off with Baan", dialog file 245, accession no. 00109318, to

InfoWorld.

         PR Newswire (dialog file 613, accession no. 00373116) discloses ERP application (see

claim 2 above). PR Newswire (dialog file 613, accession no. 00373116) does not expressly

disclose the ERP application comprises BAAN. InfoWorld discloses the ERP application

comprises BAAN (see entire document). At the time the invention was made, it would have

been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by PR

Newswire to include the step wherein the ERP application comprises BAAN. One of ordinary

skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it effectively "links 18,000 users in

four geographical regions, 19 manufacturing sites, and six database servers to handle as many as

6,000 concurrent users"; thus, providing sufficient integration.

11.   Claims 27 and 28 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dialog file

613, accession no. 00373116, Stadelmann and Dialog file 20, accession no. 02821200, to PR

Newswire as applied to claim 26 above, and further in view of US Patent No. 6418448 to Sarkar.

         PR Newswire (Dialog file 20, accession no. 02821200) discloses electronically receiving

by the ERP application the sales order from messaging middleware, and wherein the

automatically (see paragraphs 5 and 6). Note. PR Newswire (dialog file 20, accession no.

02821200) discloses an ERP system called ERPNet that "easily allow distributors to order

merchandise through the web"; the ERPNet consists of a web-browser front-end application,

"communicating to an SAP R/3 system over IBM's MQSeries or Microsoft's MSMQ, back-end

application", which infers receiving the sales order by the ERP application from messaging

middleware. PR Newswire (Dialog file 20, accession no. 02821200) does not expressly disclose

means for sending the electronic order confirmation from the ERP application to the messaging

middleware, means for forwarding the electronic order confirmation from the messaging

middleware to a global computer network site server on the global computer network, and means

for returning the electronic order confirmation from the global computer network site server to

the browser. Sarkar discloses means for sending the electronic order confirmation from the ERP

application to the messaging middleware, means for forwarding the electronic order confirmation

from the messaging middleware to a global computer network site server on the global computer

network, means for returning the electronic order confirmation from the global computer

network site server to the browser, and encrypting and decrypting the electronic order

confirmation between the browser and the global computer network site server (see col. 8, lines

38-60; col. 9, lines 32-67; col. 10, lines 1-9). At the time the invention was made, it would have

been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the method disclose by PR

Newswire (Dialog file 20, accession no. 02821200) to include means for sending the electronic

order confirmation from the ERP application to the messaging middleware, means for

forwarding the electronic order confirmation from the messaging middleware to a global

computer network site server on the global computer network, and mans for returning the

electronic order confirmation from the global computer network site server to the browser. One

of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because it provides means for

software integration for data exchange, thus, improving e-commerce transactions.

Conclusion

12.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this

Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a).

Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this

final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Jalatee Worjloh whose telephone number is 703-305-0057. The

examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Thursdays 8:30 - 7:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on 703-305-9768. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306 for Regular and

After Final Actions and 703-746-9443 for Non-Official/Draft.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

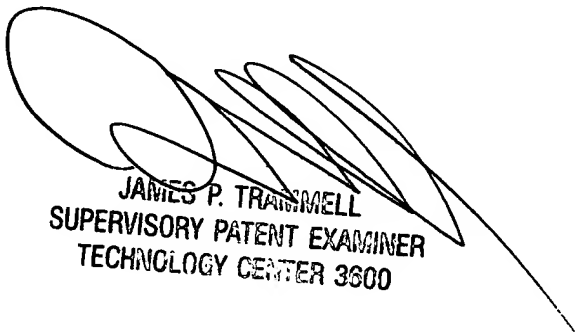system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 5, 2451 Crystal Drive,

Arlington, V.A., Seventh floor receptionist.

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September 23, 2004

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